

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

April 30, 2001 LB 543

SENATOR THOMPSON: No.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So somebody who is the son or daughter of Warren Buffett, the "Oracle of Omaha", could get one of these loans.

SENATOR THOMPSON: Yes, if they applied for it.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I didn't quite hear you.

SENATOR THOMPSON: If they apply for it.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. Now if a person is poor, that would not give that person a leg up in the process of getting this loan. Isn't that true?

SENATOR THOMPSON: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Now how many people do you think would probably get the maximum if we left it at \$2,500? Do you think it's likely that everybody would probably get the maximum who applied until the money ran out?

SENATOR THOMPSON: That would be part of the work of the teacher training institution that awards it, but I would...I would hope that they would.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Now, if the amount is reduced by \$500, that reduction is not going to make that much difference to the "loanee", is it, the "lender"?

SENATOR THOMPSON: Well, \$500 would make a difference to me.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Are you going to seek one of these loans, Senator Thompson?

SENATOR THOMPSON: No, I'm not, but I...I...the amount that was placed in the bill at the time we passed the bill was attempting to be equivalent to the tuition at UNL, and that was the basis for that number and it's not going to be going down, I don't believe, so I...I don't feel comfortable coming off that number.